

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Mail Stop PV-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-8711 • (206) 459-6000

October 26, 1989

Mr. Dean Fowler
Colbert Landfill Project Manager
Spokane County Public Works
N. 811 Jefferson Street
Spokane, Washington 99260-0180

OCT 30 1989

Re: Domestic Well Monitoring Program

Dear Dean:

This letter is to let you know what is required regarding the domestic well monitoring program. This monitoring program, which was set up a couple years ago, had a two fold purpose. The primary purpose of the program was to provide solid data to the area residents that their well water was still safe to drink. That data provided a lot of "peace of mind" to the Colbert residents. It was especially important for the people whose wells showed some level of contamination, but still met drinking water standards. It let them know what the contamination levels were, and whether the levels were increasing, decreasing, or remaining fairly stable. For those residents whose wells were near the edge of the contamination plume but were not affected, it let them know that their water supply was still free of contaminants. The secondary purpose of the program was to provide "scientific data" to be used by us government officials to track the plumes. The data has been used recently by Landau Associates to develop the new plume maps.

Section VII of the Scope of Work (Domestic Well Monitoring) outlines the requirements of the program. That section states:

1. The domestic well monitoring program is a continuation of the existing program currently being accomplished.
2. The program is carried out under the review of the sampling committee (Britton, (b) (6) and Austin).
3. Changes will not be made without approval of the sampling committee and the County.
4. Any changes to the program will be submitted to Ecology and EPA for review and approval.

USEPA SF



1503746

Mr. Dean Fowler
October 26, 1989
Page 2

I have attached Section VII of the Scope of Work to this letter.

There is concern among the Colbert area residents that the domestic well monitoring program will be greatly curtailed in the immediate future, due to the installation of new ground water monitoring wells. The purpose of the new monitoring wells is to guide the location of the extraction well systems and was not intended to replace the domestic well monitoring program. Ecology and EPA expect the domestic well monitoring program to remain basically the same until changes are appropriate. Now is not the appropriate time to change that program. Providing the residents with quality and timely data regarding their drinking water will help to satisfy their "peace of mind" and will also go a very long way to making all our work in the area much easier.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at (206)438-3043 or Scan 585-3043.

Sincerely,

Mike Blum

Mike Blum, Project Manager
Landfill Site Cleanup Section
Hazardous Waste Investigations
and Cleanup Program

MB:clr

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Austin, A&A Properties (Sampling Committee Member)
George Britton, Spokane County Assessor (Sampling Committee Member)
(b) (6) [redacted] Colbert Citizen (Sampling Committee Member)
Neil Thompson, EPA
(b) (6) [redacted] Colbert Landfill Area Contaminant Committee Chairman